

**LEHMUA  
Regular Meeting**

**January 14, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Little Egg Harbor Municipal Utilities Authority was held on January 14, 2020 at 5:00 PM, at Authority headquarters, 823 Radio Road, Little Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joseph Koptic, Chairman; Margaret DePergola, Vice-Chair; Earl Miller, Secretary; Marie Skelly, Treasurer; Ken Miller; Kenneth Laney; Peter Cicco

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Earl F. Sutton, Jr., Executive Director; Michael S. DiFrancia, Superintendent; Nicole M. Princiotti, Executive Secretary/QPA; Debra Rumpf, Authority Attorney; Joanna Bermingham, Authority Engineer

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE PER SIGN-IN SHEET:** None

Nicole M. Princiotti read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, this meeting has been duly advertised in the Atlantic City Park Press and the Asbury Park Press, posted on the Authority bulletin board and posted and filed in the office of the Little Egg Harbor Township Clerk. Resolutions are also posted on the bulletin board.

**PRIOR MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 10, 2019. Roll call vote, Earl Miller – yes, Kenneth Laney – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Roll call vote, Earl Miller – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

**BILLS RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded by Mr. K. Miller to approve the operational account bills resolution. Roll call vote, Earl Miller – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

1 – Mr. Sutton welcomed everyone and wished everyone a Happy New Year. It is hard to believe that another decade has gone by. He wasn't sure if everyone remembered 20 years ago when there was all this hype about Y2K, and where did that time go?

Mr. Sutton congratulated Mrs. DePergola on her re-appointment and expressed that he was happy that the Township followed the Authority's recommendation. He is looking forward to working with Mrs. DePergola and all the other commissioners in the next year. We are going to have another busy year with the ongoing improvements and our infrastructure.

Mr. Sutton stated that he spoke with our bond counsel just today and was very frustrated with the funding issues with the State. We are going to keep moving ahead and take the necessary steps in order to do this for not only the Authority but our ratepayers.

2 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that Re-organization is coming up and the Chairman will again provide a mailed proposal to all the Commissioners with recommendations for re-organization at the February meeting. Please review and contact the Chairman with any comments or questions prior to the meeting and please note the dates that will be proposed for the upcoming year, and once approved mark them in your calendars.

3 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that the Auditor has advised us that he would like to have the final Audit completed as soon as possible and he has asked for some additional information.

4 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that there is going to be recommendation from the Personnel Committee and a corresponding resolution being presented for approval.

Mr. Koptic stated that we would handle Resolution #2020-01, and asked if there were any questions?

There being none, a motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve Resolution #2020-01 authorizing compensation for Nicole M. Princiotti. Roll call vote, Earl Miller – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

Mrs. Princiotti thanked the Board for their approval.

Mr. Sutton thanked Mrs. Princiotti for her hard work.

5 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that the Tax Sale process was completed on December 18, 2019. Everything went well and the Authority has been paid for all monies in the arrears.

Mr. Sutton stated that he would like to thank Mrs. Trettin, our Head Cashier, the Township Tax Collector, Dayna Wilson and the staff from the department for their efforts.

6 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that there are no customer committee recommendations this month.

7 – Mr. Sutton advised that there is no need for Executive Session.

Mr. Sutton stated that he would like to add that just today he received some good news that he actually hasn't even had a chance to share with his staff. He has been chosen by the New Jersey AWWA to make a presentation at one of their sessions.

Mr. Sutton stated that for making a half hour presentation at the session, the association will give him one free day at the seminar. He has done this at other seminars as well.

Mr. Sutton stated that was all he had for his report unless anyone had any questions.

Mr. Koptic asked if there were any questions on the Executive Director's Report? There being none, a motion was made by Mr. K. Miller, seconded by Mr. E. Miller to approve the Executive Director's report as submitted. All in favor.

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Koptic asked if there were any questions on the Personnel Committee Report? There being none, a motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded Mrs. DePergola to approve the Personnel Committee Report as submitted. All in favor.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1 – Mr. DiFrancia wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that we have a very busy upcoming year.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that we have a lot going on already. At Well #13 we are in the process of re-building all of the filters. A couple of the knuckles on the filters had to be re-welded. We had a professional welder come in and when we took down some of the filters, we could see that the insides needed rehabilitation, especially since they were installed in 1968. We have two filters completed and will finish the other two tomorrow.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that we also have Well #12 moving along. It has been exhausting at times but is also very exciting.

2 – Mr. DiFrancia advised the Board that the tank rehabilitation for the Radio Road Water Tower will begin in March. We have been doing a lot of prepping for that. We have moved the transducers in the other tower so readings can be taken when the tower next door is down. There is a lot of preparation in order for the contractor to come in and start in March.

3 – Mr. DiFrancia advised the Board that the bidding for Phase I water and sewer main replacement will take place in January with a bid opening on February 20, 2020.

4 – Mr. DiFrancia stated that Phase II of the water and sewer main replacement is still under review.

5 – Mr. DiFrancia stated that we have advertised for the Slip-lining on Iowa Court with receipt of bids on January 30, 2020. He didn't feel the need to rip the entire main apart, so slip lining was a better option to rehab the sewer main.

6 – Mr. DiFrancia stated that his work order management report is attached for review and he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that he is still working on the video presentation of the work that we do in the field. Once completed the Board will be able to see what they do everyday, anywhere from emergency situations to night jobs, to everyday maintenance and tasks.

Mr. DiFrancia also stated that anyone is welcome to have a tour of our facilities to see how they operate on a daily basis. Especially the water treatment plant once it's completed.

Mr. Cicco stated that he would like to comment regarding a water main break on December 23, 2019 that was right by his house. There was some water bubbling up through the concrete and

he called the Superintendent. Some of the crew came out to look at it, and within 30 minutes of that he had a full crew, with equipment. Through the process of them fixing it, he was in and out of the house, and was amazed at how well and efficiently the crew worked to get the job done. They worked as a team.

Mr. Cicco complimented and thanked Mr. Sutton and Mr. DiFrancia for a job well done.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that was definitely a day to remember. There was a water main break under the ground. You have a saddle tap and a core line that goes to one of the houses. That saddle was probably originally put on too tight and what happens is it gives way and at the same time it splits the main. The ground is pretty packed but the water will seep through. We have a milling machine and what that does is it gets attached to the back of the backhoe and instead of jack hammering the road, you have this milling machine that grinds it up into fine pieces that can be used as fill when the road is put back together. This saves the Authority a lot of money.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that before we had the milling machine, we would have to jack hammer the road, and bring all that material back to the shop, and they pay to have someone pick it up and dispose of it. This would cost about \$650 a load. The machine pays for itself within two years.

Mr. DiFrancia went back to the water main break and stated that when they started pulling and ripping at the road, it gave way. It was pretty rough. We immediately had to get the leak isolated and had to shut off two valves, and then let the homeowners in the area know they would have no water for a bit. When we got down to the main the split wasn't a simple fix. We had to cut a portion of the main out and replace it. It was a big job, but the crew did an amazing job.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that was all he had for his report unless there were any questions.

Mr. Koptic asked if there were any questions for the Superintendent's Report? There being none, a motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. E. Miller to approve the Superintendent's Report as submitted. All in favor.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ms. Bermingham wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that her report has been submitted for approval.

Ms. Bermingham stated that as previously mentioned, Phase I of the water and sewer main replacement is going to be advertised to receive bids. The water treatment plant has had its set of challenges, but is still running on schedule. Most of the exterior, with the exception of one wall has been completed.

Ms. Bermingham stated that was all for her report unless there were any questions.

Mr. Koptic asked if there were any questions on the Engineer's Report? There being none, a motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. E. Miller to approve the Engineer's Report as submitted. All in favor.

#### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mrs. Rumpf wished everyone a Happy New Year, and congratulated Mrs. DePergola on her re-appointment. She also congratulated Mrs. Princiotti and Mr. Sutton.

Mrs. Rumpf stated that her report has been submitted and she would be happy to answer any questions.

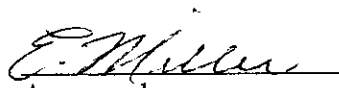
Mr. Koptic asked if there were any questions on the Attorney's Report? There being none, a motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to approve the Attorney's Report as submitted. All in favor.

Mr. Koptic asked if there were any other matters to come before the Board? There being none a motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to accept and file all correspondence. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. K. Miller to open this portion of the meeting to the public. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to close this portion of the meeting to the public. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. E. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

  
Approved